IN THE CLAIMS

This submission amends Claims 1, 5, 6, and 36, and cancels claim 4. The following is a clean version of the entire set of pending claims. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.21(c)(1)(ii), the Attachment provides marked up versions of the claims containing the newly introduced changes.



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1. A light emitting device comprising:

a substrate;

an n-type semiconductor layer;

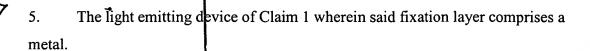
an active layer for generating light, said active layer being in electrical contact with said n-type semiconducting layer,

a p-type semiconductor layer in electrical contact with said active layer; and a p-electrode in electrical contact with said p-type semiconductor layer, said p-electrode comprising at least a layer of silver having a thickness sufficient to reflect greater than 50% of light incident thereon, wherein a portion of said generated light exits said device through said substrate after being reflected from said p-electrode, and wherein said p-electrode further comprises

a bonding layer in electrical contact with said layer of silver for making electrical connections to said layer of silver; and

a fixation layer overlying and in electrical contact with said layer of silver.

- 2. The light emitting device of Claim 1 wherein said n-type semiconductor layer and said p-type semiconductor layer comprise group III nitride semiconducting materials.
- 3. The light emitting device of Claim 1 wherein said silver layer is greater than or equal to 20 nm in thickness.





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- 6. The light emitting device of Claim 5 wherein said fixation layer comprises a metal chosen from the group consisting of nickel, palladium, gold, aluminum, chromium, titanium, and platinum.
- 7. The light emitting device of Claim 1 wherein said p-electrode further comprises a dielectric fixation layer overlying said layer of silver.
- 8. The light emitting device of Claim 7 wherein said fixation layer comprises a compound chosen from the group consisting of TiO₂ and Al₂O₃.
- 9. The light emitting device of Claim 1 wherein said bonding layer comprises a metal chosen from the group consisting of gold, nickel, aluminum, and indium.
- 10. The light emitting device of Claim 1 wherein said bonding layer covers less than half of said layer of silver.
- 11. The light emitting device of Claim 1 wherein said bonding layer is a multilayered structure.
- 12. The light emitting device of Claim 1 wherein said p-electrode further comprises a diffusion barrier layer between said bonding layer and said layer of silver, said diffusion barrier layer providing an electrical path between said bonding layer and said layer of silver, said diffusion barrier layer for preventing constituents from said bonding layer from interdiffusing with said layer of silver.
- 13. The light emitting device of Claim 12 wherein said diffusion barrier layer comprises a metal.
- 14. The light emitting device of Claim 13 wherein said diffusion barrier layer comprises nickel.
- 15. The light emitting device of Claim 12 wherein said diffusion barrier layer encapsulates said layer of silver.

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- 16. The light emitting device of Claim 12 wherein said diffusion barrier layer is a multi-layered structure.
- 17. The light emitting device of Claim 1 further comprising:

an n-electrode comprising a layer of electrically conducting material in electrical contact with said n-type semiconductor layer; and

a package having first and second conductors thereon electrically connected to said p-electrode and said n-electrode, respectively.

36. A light emitting device comprising:

a substrate;

an n-type semiconductor layer;

an active layer for generating light, said active layer being in electrical contact with said n-type semiconducting layer;

a p-type semiconductor layer in electrical contact with said active layer; and a p-electrode in electrical contact with said p-type semiconductor layer, said p-electrode comprising at least a substantially transparent layer of silver, and wherein said p-electrode further comprises

a bonding layer in electrical contact with said layer of silver for making electrical connections to said layer of silver; and

a fixation layer overlying and in electrical contact with said layer of silver.

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